SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-54414; File No. SR-ISE-2006-49)

September 7, 2006

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Fee Changes

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), ¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, ² notice is hereby given that on August 29, 2006, the International Securities Exchange, Inc. ("ISE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the ISE. The ISE has filed the proposed rule change as one establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the ISE under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder, ⁴ which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The ISE is proposing to amend its Schedule of Fees to establish fees for transactions in options on 5 Premium Products.⁵ The text of the proposed rule change is

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

The term "Premium Products" is defined in the Schedule of Fees as the products enumerated therein.

available on the Exchange's Internet website (http://www.iseoptions.com), at the principal office of the ISE, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the ISE included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The ISE has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange is proposing to amend its Schedule of Fees to establish fees for transactions in options on the following 5 Premium Products: iShares S&P SmallCap 600 Value Index Fund ("IJS"), iShares Russell 1000 Growth Index Fund ("IWF"), iShares Russell MidCap Growth Index Fund ("IWP"), iShares Russell MidCap Value Index Fund ("IWS"), and iShares Russell 3000 Index Fund ("IWV"). Specifically, the Exchange is proposing to adopt an execution fee and a comparison fee for all transactions in options on IJS, IWF, IWP, IWS and IWV. The amount of the execution fee and comparison fee for products covered by this filing shall be \$0.15 and \$0.03 per contract, respectively, for

IJS, IWF, IWP, IWS and IWV constitute "Fund Shares," as defined by ISE Rule 502(h).

These fees will be charged only to Exchange members. Under a pilot program that is set to expire on July 31, 2007, these fees will also be charged to Linkage Orders (as defined in ISE Rule 1900). See Securities Exchange Release No. 54204 (July 25, 2006), 71 FR 43548 (August 1, 2006).

all Public Customer Orders⁸ and Firm Proprietary orders. The amount of the execution fee and comparison fee for all ISE Market Maker transactions shall be equal to the execution fee and comparison fee currently charged by the Exchange for ISE Market Maker transactions in equity options.⁹ Finally, the amount of the execution fee and comparison fee for all Non-ISE Market Maker transactions shall be \$0.16 and \$0.03 per contract, respectively. All of the applicable fees covered by this filing are identical to fees charged by the Exchange for all other Premium Products. The Exchange believes the proposed rule change will further the Exchange's goal of introducing new products to the marketplace that are competitively priced.

The Exchange has entered into a license agreement with Standard & Poor's and the Frank Russell Company in connection with the listing and trading of options on IJS and IWF, IWP, IWS and IWV, respectively. As with certain other licensed options, the Exchange is adopting a fee of \$0.10 per contract for trading in these options to defray the licensing costs. The Exchange believes charging the participants that trade this instrument is the most equitable means of recovering the costs of the license. However, because of competitive pressures in the industry, the Exchange proposes to exclude Public Customer Orders from this surcharge fee. Accordingly, this surcharge fee would be charged only to Exchange members with respect to Non-Public Customer Orders (e.g., ISE Market Maker, Non-ISE Market Maker & Firm Proprietary orders) and would apply

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Public Customer Order is defined in Exchange Rule 100(a)(33) as an order for the account of a Public Customer. Public Customer is defined in Exchange Rule 100(a)(32) as a person that is not a broker or dealer in securities.

The execution fee is currently between \$.21 and \$.12 per contract side, depending on the Exchange Average Daily Volume and the comparison fee is currently \$.03.

to Linkage Orders¹⁰ under a pilot program that is set to expire on July 31, 2007. Further, since options on IJS, IWF, IWP, IWS and IWV are multiply-listed, the Payment for Order Flow fee would also apply.

2. Statutory Basis

The basis for the proposed rule change is the requirement under Section 6(b)(4) of the Act¹¹ that an exchange have an equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The proposed rule change does not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others</u>

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

Because the foregoing proposed rule change establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charged imposed by the Exchange, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹² and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)¹³ thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change the Commission may summarily abrogate such

See supra note 7.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹³ 17 CFR 19b-4(f)(2).

proposed rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File No. SR-ISE-2006-49 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Station Place, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File No. SR-ISE-2006-49. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld

from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-ISE-2006-49 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority. ¹⁴

Nancy M. Morris Secretary

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).